

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /056 W

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R 201105Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 771

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, NI

SUBJ: FMG CLARIFIES REPORT THAT NINE AMBASSADORS RETIRED

REF : LAGOS 8028

1. WHETHER IN EFFORT EASE PERSONAL FEELINGS OR AS RESULT UNCOORDINATED PERSONNEL ACTION, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ISSUED CLARIFICATION OF YESTERDAY'S REPORT THAT NINE ENVOYS HAD BEEN RETIRED (REFTEL). STATEMENT SAID ONLY FOUR HAD BEEN RETIRED (FORMER PERMSEC IYALLA; ALHAJI SULE D. KOLO IN LONDON; BRIG. KURUBO IN AOKARA AND NIGERIA'S PERMREP TO U, OGBU).

ANNOUNCEMENT NOTED THAT THE FOUR WERE LEAVING SERVICE WITH FULL BENEFITS AS PERMITTED UNDER LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING RETIREMENT AT AGE 45.

2. WITH REGARD AMBASSADOR GARBA IN WASHINGTON, RELEASE SAID HE HAD ALREADY OFFICIALLY RETIRED IN 1973 AND HAD BEEN KEPT ON SINCE THEN UNDER YEARLY CONTRACTS, THE LATEST OF WHICH
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EXPIRES NEXT MONTH. (COMMENT: IT WOULD SEEM, THEREFORE, GARBA

HAS BEEN NOTIFIED HE WILL BE LEAVING WASHINGTON SOMETIME BEFORE THE END OF SEPTEMBER). SIMILARLY, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA, ALHAJI BELLO MALABU OFFICIALLY RETIRED IN 1972 AND HAS BEEN KEPT ON UNDER A CONTRACT WHICH EXPIRES THE END OF NEXT MONTH.

3. AMBASSADORS BARSEY (EQUATORIAL GUINEA) AND HAASTRUP (LONDON), HAVE NOT RPT NOT BEEN RELIEVED OF THEIR POSTS BUT WILL, ACCORDING TO THE CLARIFICATION, BE RETIRING "NORMALLY" IN JANUARY OF NEXT YEAR. ONLY ONE OF NINE APPARENTLY NOT RELIEVED OR TO BE RETIRED WITHIN NEXT SIX MONTHS, IS AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA, ALHAJI SANI KONTAGORA, WHO, ACCORDING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, HAS NOT BEEN RELIEVED OF HIS POST.

COMMENT: WHATEVER BEHIND APPARENT MIX-UP, MEA OFFICIALS YESTERDAY WERE NOT SURPRISED BY PRESS STORY. FURTHER, THE CLARIFICATION ONLY SOFTENED THE ANNOUNCEMENT AND HAS NOT CHANGED FACT THAT ALL BUT ONE OF THOSE NAMED YESTERDAY ARE, IN EFFECT, BEING EASED OUT OF THEIR JOBS.
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